

and is probably identical with *liriodendronella*.

Tischeria.

In all of the species of this genus of which I have traced the life history (*T. malifoliella*, *T. quercivorella* and *T. quercitella*), there are the same number of moults as in the greater number of lepidoptera, viz., four (or five, if we include the moult into the pupal state); and there are no marked differences, either in color or structure, between the same larvae at different stages of growth. The oak-feeding species are more readily distinguished from each other by the character of the mines, than by the appearance of either the larva or imago. Mr. Stainton's figure of *T. marginea* (*Nat. Hist. Tin.*, v. 3,

plate), is very much like the larva of our *T. malifoliella*, but the head of *marginea*, as figured, is darker than that of *malifoliella*, and the last three segments, especially the last one, in the figure, are too short and narrow. The wings of the imago of *marginea*, as figured, are paler than those of *malifoliella*. The larva of *malifoliella* is also slenderer than that of *marginea*, and more moniliform, while each segment has on each side three hairs, which are not represented in the figure of *marginea*. *Marginea* is perhaps nearer — or as near — our *T. aenia* F. & B., which, like *marginea*, mines bramble leaves. The mine of *marginea* is, however, wider and more irregular than that of *aenia*.

TRANSFORMATIONS OF *NACERDES MELANURA*.

BY HENRY LORING MOODY, MALDEN, MASS.

As far as I am aware, nothing is yet known of the transformations of this very common beetle. At various times I have hunted assiduously for the larva, but without success. Thinking better luck might follow from trying to obtain larvae in another way, I captured a lot of the beetles with the purpose of getting the eggs. From the fact that the beetles are abundant about buildings with open rafters, I concluded that dry pine wood was the food of the larva, and confined the females in a vessel with a quantity of dry "punky" pine. They laid their eggs freely, and in eight days the young appeared; when first hatched they measured a fraction over one mm. long. At intervals of one or two weeks I measured specimens, and, singularly enough, though apparently in good health, their growth after the first few days

was hardly perceptible. At the end of seven months the largest specimens measured barely more than two mm. long; in eleven months four mm., and at the beginning of the fifteenth month all were dead. It would be somewhat remarkable for any larva to sustain life so long under conditions altogether unfavorable. I am confirmed therefore in thinking that pine, or some one of the coniferous woods, in a dry state, is the food of this larva, but think I made a mistake in keeping the vessel so tightly closed as to exclude the air.

The eggs of *Nacerdes* are cylindrical, a fraction over 1 mm. long, a little more than three times as long as their greatest breadth, tapering somewhat toward each end, sometimes slightly curved, rounded at the ends. Color white, somewhat translucent, with a portion at each end semi-transparent.